

**2012 ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
MINNIE CREEK CATTLE ALLOTMENT**

This is your Annual Operating Instructions for the Minnie Creek C&H Allotment. This Plan is part of your Term Grazing Permit as specified in Part 2, Number 8 (a) of your permit.

As part of the Terms & Conditions of your Permit, Part 2 Number 8 (i), all range improvements and maintenance on fences and water developments must be completed before cattle enter the forest. Non-use does not relieve any permittee from their range improvement maintenance responsibility.

Before livestock enter the forest, your grazing fees must be paid and notice received in this office. Failure to follow this procedure is a violation of your permit.

**NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK (COW/CALF) BY PERMITTEE**

<b><u>PERMITEE</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>NON-USE</u></b>
NGW Ranch	149	0
Neil Schoenenberger		
<b>TOTAL</b>	149	0

**PERMITTED SEASON OF USE**

APPROXIMATELY June 1 through September 30

Time allotted in each unit is approximate based on proper utilization standards listed below.

**Rotation:**

**1<sup>st</sup>:** North Unit: 60 days

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** South Unit: 60 days

**PROPER UTILIZATION FOR ALL UNITS**

<b>Upland Forage Utilization</b>	<b>Utilization Criteria</b>
Grass and herbaceous species (% dry weight)	Utilization of upland forage species on this allotment should not exceed 35% of key species (Blue Bunch Wheat Grass and Idaho Fescue) in critical winter range and 50% for non-winter range.
Shrubs (% Annual leader growth)	Utilization in the uplands 10% in critical winter range and 25to 35% in non-winter range.
<b>Riparian Forage Utilization</b>	<b>Utilization Criteria</b>
Herbaceous Utilization (AIZ)*	Utilization in the Aquatic Influence Zone at the end of the grazing period will be 50%. (e.g. poa, redbtop, etc)
Stubble Height (AIZ)*	Allowable stubble height measurements in the AIZ will vary between 3 to 6 inches at the end of the grazing period depending on the time of grazing and the condition of the stream.
Stubble Height (Greenline)*	Allowable stubble height measurements, along the greenline, will be 6 inches at the end of the grazing period. (e.g. carex)
Herbaceous Utilization (Greenline)	Utilization at the greenline at the end of the grazing period will be 50% depending on the time of grazing and the condition of the stream.
% Woody Species utilization	Allowable woody utilization 40%
% Cumulative Bank Disturbance (Alteration)	Refers to annual physical disturbance of alternation of the bank by livestock trampling. Allowable disturbance shall not exceed 15 %.

**MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

The fence constructed along the Weston Canyon highway is only to keep cattle off the road. Part of this area is private land and any utilization of their land is between you and the private

land owner. The National Forest land will be considered a key area, which means: If and when 50 % utilization occurs, cattle will be removed from that unit.

Once a unit is grazed, any drift-back is detrimental. The objective of rotational grazing is to give vegetation and soils time for recovery in order to promote continued and increased productivity.

Riding and salting away from bottoms is a very important management tool. Salt must be located at least a ¼ mile from water, meadows, and roads.

### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Any change that deviates from this Annual Operation Instructions must be made in advance and be in writing by the District Ranger.

At the end of the grazing season, cattle must be herded, not drifted home. Cattle on the forest after September 30 are not authorized.

A Forest closure order exists for any hay or straw used in association with your permit and must be certified and tagged as noxious weed or noxious weed seed free as directed by that order.

Please notify our office of any noxious weed populations on your allotment, so that a crew can be sent out to map and treat them.

Please contact Hans Bastian at 236-7526 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Jeffery J. Hammes*

JEFFERY J. HAMMES  
Westside District Ranger

NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Neil Schoenenberger		